SKYBOUND

Daniel Warren Johnson Mike Spicer

3

EXTREMITY™

THE FUTURE OF COMICS

25 image

EST. 1992

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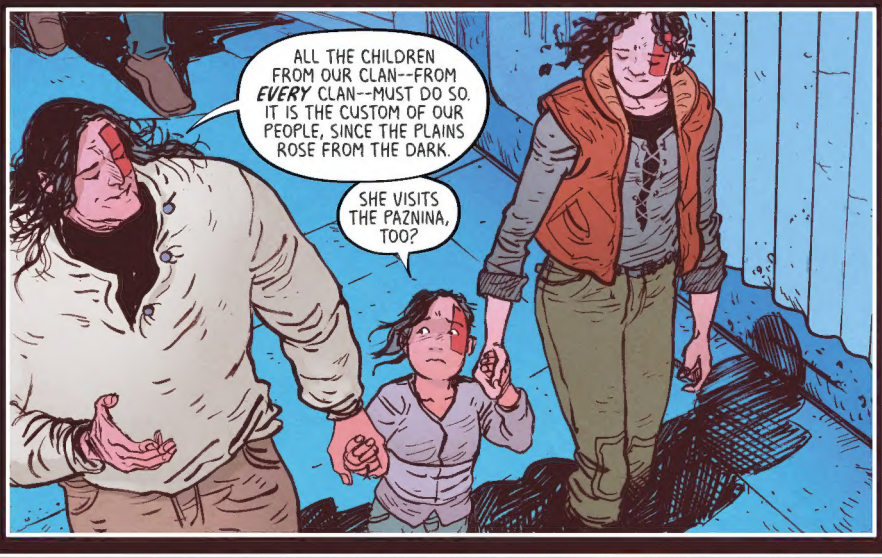
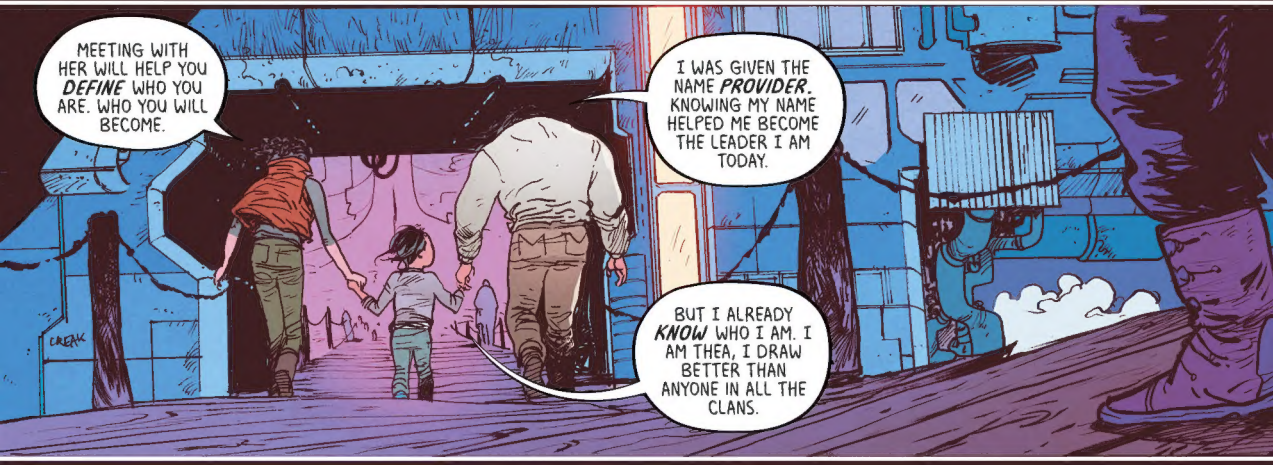
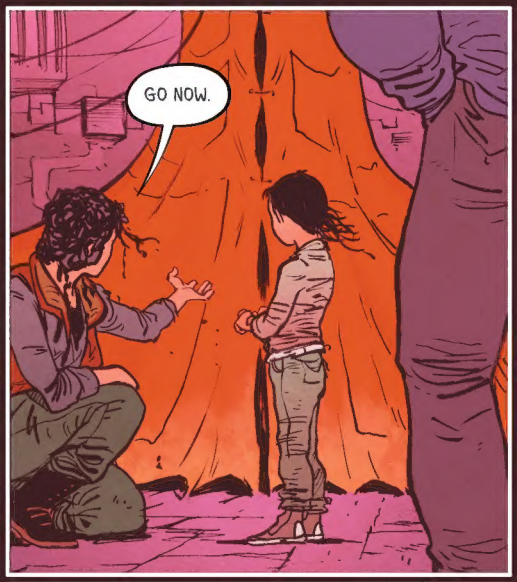
"BUT--*WHY* DO I HAVE TO GO?"







HAVE A SEAT, CHILD.

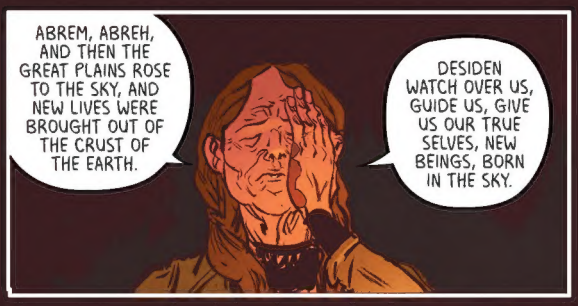
HELLO, GREAT MOTHER.
LIFT YOUR CHIN, SMALL ONE. LET ME SEE YOUR EYES.
MY NAME IS--
I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, *THEA* OF THE ROTO PLAINS. I RECOGNIZE THOSE EYES. THEY BURN THE SAME WAY YOUR FATHER'S DID, A LONG TIME AGO.

DRINK.

SLURP

BLEAGH.

PLACE IT FACEDOWN IN MY HAND NOW. YES, THAT'S IT.


ABREM, ABREH, AND THEN THE GREAT PLAINS ROSE TO THE SKY, AND NEW LIVES WERE BROUGHT OUT OF THE CRUST OF THE EARTH.
DESIDEN WATCH OVER US, GUIDE US, GIVE US OUR TRUE SELVES, NEW BEINGS, BORN IN THE SKY.

THEA OF THE ROTO PLAINS, I NAME YOU...

ARTIST.

"MAY YOU BLESS THE WORLD WITH YOUR GIFTS...

"...AND GIVE RISE TO THE HOPES OF THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU.

"MAY YOU REMEMBER THIS NAME WHEN THE DARK ROLLS IN FROM RIGHT...
DRIP

"...AND FROM LEFT."

scratch
scratch

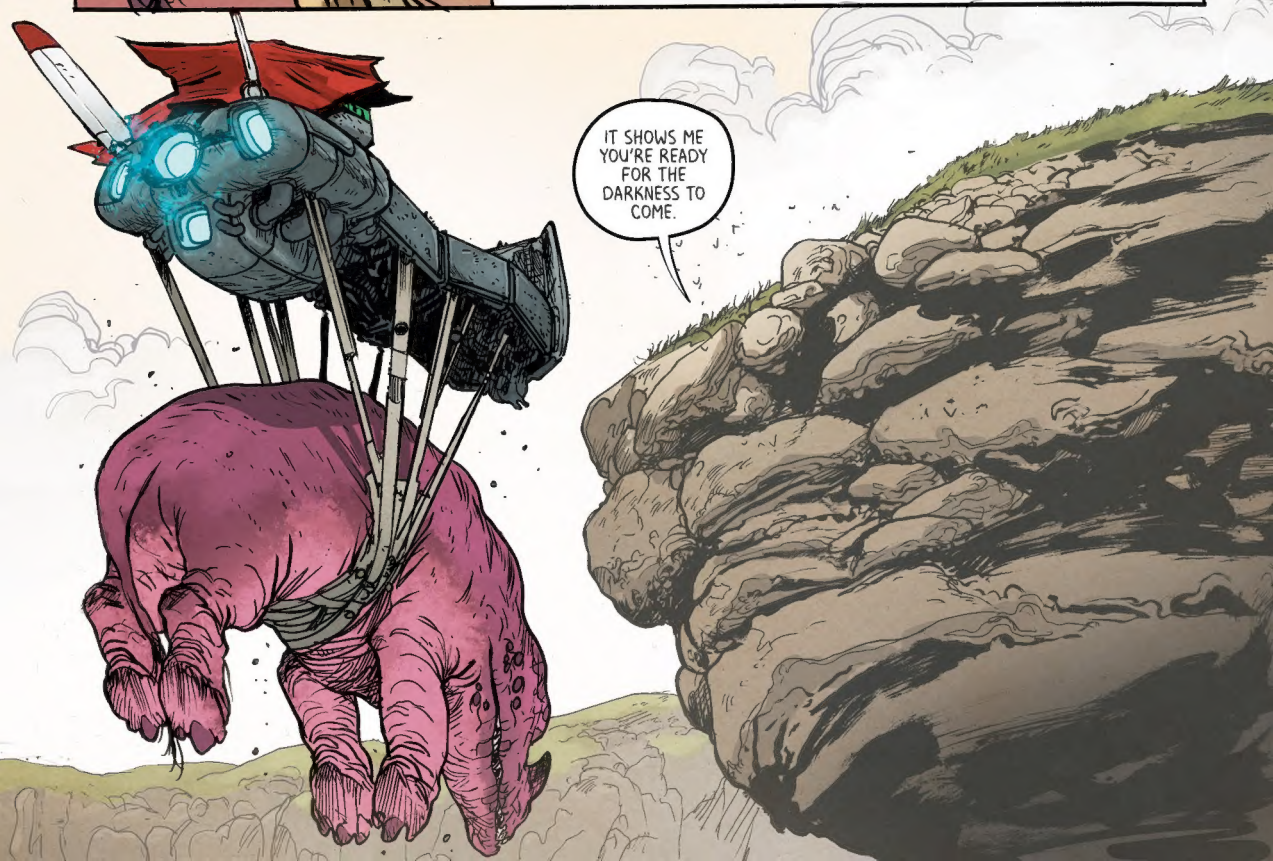
THEA... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

IT'S NOTHING, DAD, I WAS JUST--
ARE-- ARE YOU DRAWING AGAIN?
DESIDEN BE PRAISED... THIS...
I KNOW, IT'S EMBARRAS--
THEA, NO. IT'S NOT AT ALL.
IT'S BEAUTIFUL.
YOU USED TO DRAW THESE ALL THE TIME WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER.
YEAH. I WAS A LOT BETTER BACK THEN.
NOW HOLD ON, BEFORE YOU START WITH THAT, HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ME DRAW?
DAD...
NO, REALLY. I MEAN, WATCH THIS--

Skratch Skratch
Skratch Skratch
SEE-- SEE?

YEAH, THAT'S--
TOLD YOU SO-- INSTEAD OF A WOLF, YOU GET A NIGHTMARE.

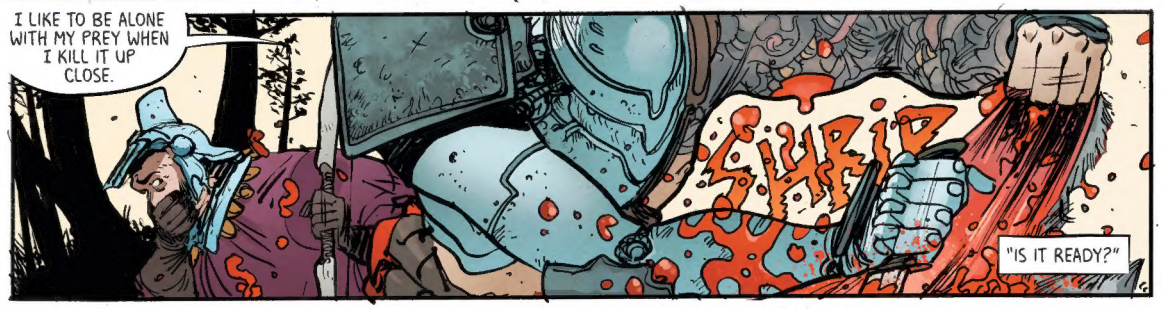
YOU'RE REMEMBERING YOUR NAME, THEA.
EVEN IN THE DIMMING LIGHT... AS NIM AND THE PAZNINA TAKE EVERYTHING AWAY FROM US.


IT SHOWS ME YOU'RE READY FOR THE DARKNESS TO COME.

I'M NOT HURTING YOU, AM I?
I AM FINE.
WHAT'S IN THERE THAT'S SO SPECIAL? ISN'T IT JUST METAL?
SOME IS, BUT THERE'S ORGANIC TISSUE AS WELL. OR AT LEAST, I *THINK* IT'S ORGANIC. IT COULD BE SOME SORT OF SYNTHETIC MIX.
CLICK!
OPEN!
SHILOH OS
LOOKS LIKE THIS IS YOUR POWER SOURCE. SOME SORT OF-- *BATTERY.*
WOW.
SHILOH-- YOU--YOU HAVE A BUTTON HERE...
I KNOW.
TERMINATE
THOSE PAINTINGS, TELL ME ABOUT THEM.
CLINK!
OH--I'VE FOUND THEM SCATTERED ALL OVER THE ANCIENT DARK. I THINK IT'S A STORY TO SHOW HOW THE LAND DWELLERS OF OLD ROSE THE PLAINS INTO THE SKY, AND THE WAR THAT FOLLOWED DOWN BELOW.
SOMEHOW, THE LAND DWELLERS BECAME FUELED WITH GREED, AND GREED LED TO VIOLENCE. BACK AND FORTH, BACK AND FORTH... UNTIL THERE WAS NOBODY LEFT.
EVER SINCE I WAS LITTLE, I'VE BEEN COLLECTING THESE BOOKS, TRYING TO GET A SENSE OF WHO CAME BEFORE US.
I CAN'T READ THEM, BUT THE PICTURES ARE THE SAME.

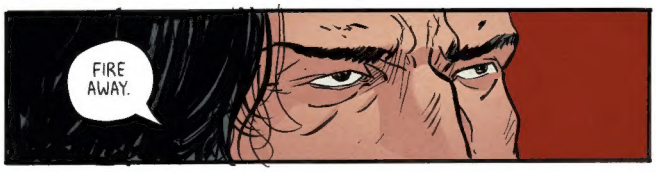
GOOD GOD, I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT BEFORE. WHAT IS IT?
I'VE SEEN DRAWINGS OF THESE EVERYWHERE, MARKINGS ON OLD WALLS AND ROCKS. A WARNING OF SOME EVIL THAT AWOKE AFTER THE GREAT WAR.
"HOPEFULLY IT'S SLEEPING NOW."
THERE IS NO THRILL TO THIS. LEAVE ME BE.
GENERAL BRYNJAR, I CANNOT. QUEEN NIM HAS ASKED US TO STAY BY YOUR SIDE NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY. WHAT IF--?
I CAN HUNT BY MYSELF, CAPTAIN! I DON'T NEED YOUR PROTECTION!
YOU ALL COULD LEARN A THING OR TWO FROM ME. HALF MY FACE IS GONE. MY ARM IS GONE. I HAD TO SLUM THROUGH THE ANCIENT DARK, THROUGH ROTO TERRITORY, TO FIND THE TECH TO LET ME HUNT AGAIN.
YOUR--YOUR TECH IS FROM THE OLD WORLD? HOW COULD YOU LOWER YOURSELF--
I DID WHAT I HAD TO DO. TOOK WHAT I HAD TO. I WON'T BE A CRIPPLE.
BUT--
HUSH. OVER THERE.
IS THAT--?
A PLAINS WOLF. ONE OF THE RAREST BREEDS.
IT WILL LOOK PERFECT ON THE FLOOR OF MY STUDY.

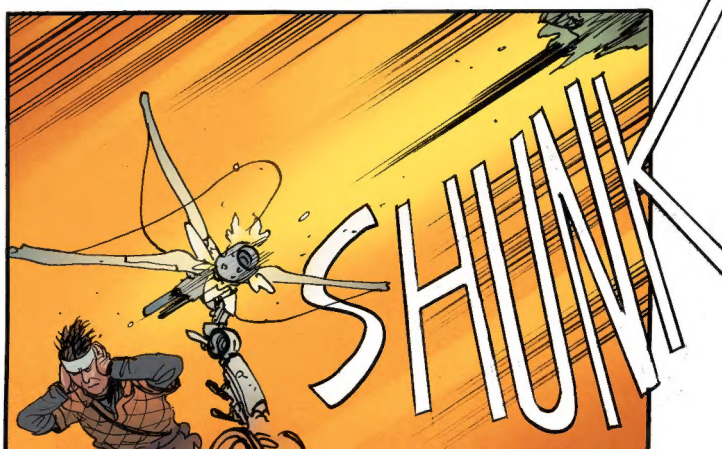
I BELIEVE IT'S STILL ALIVE, SIR.
STAY BACK, SOLDIER.


I LIKE TO BE ALONE WITH MY PREY WHEN I KILL IT UP CLOSE.
"IS IT READY?"

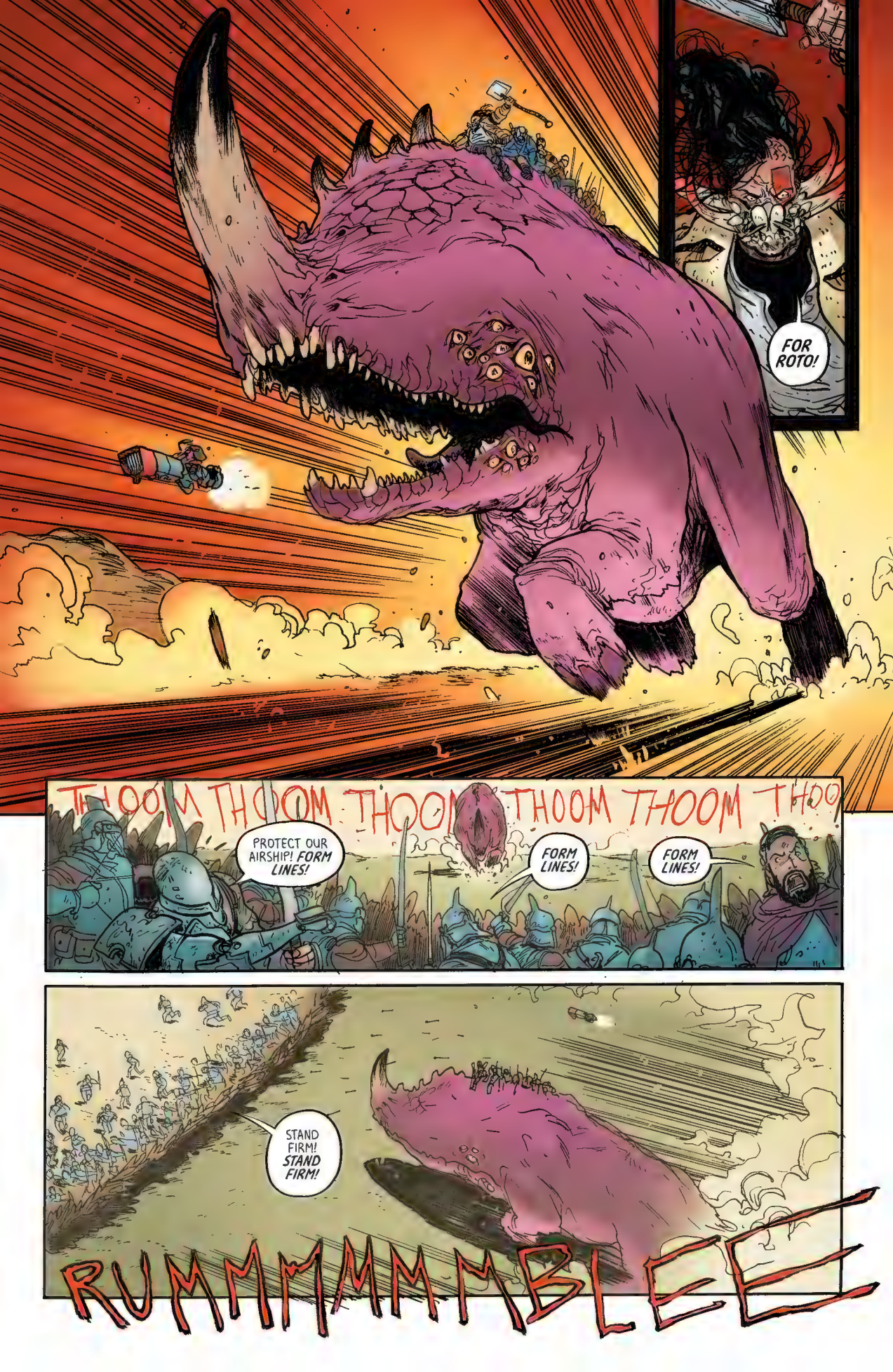
ON YOUR COMMAND, ABBA.
IT WILL SMELL ITS YOUNGLING FROM THIS FAR AWAY?

WE COULD BE EVEN FARTHER AND IT'D STILL CATCH THE SCENT.
USING A BABE TO LURE A MOTHER? IT TAKES A CO--


FIRE AWAY.

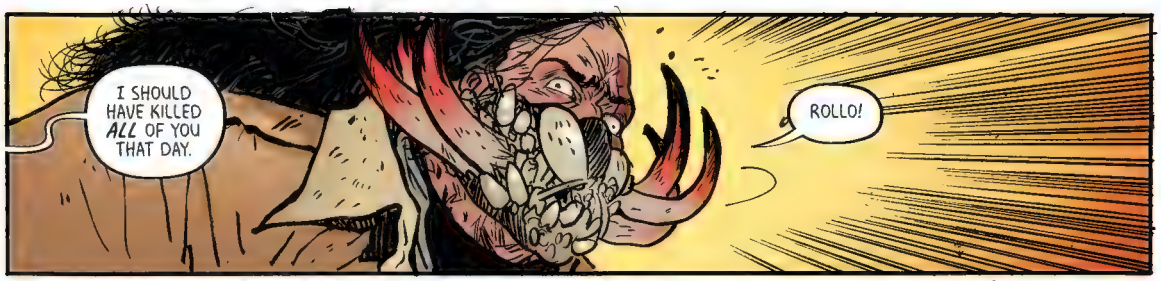

SHUNK

NOT EVEN YOU CAN RUIN MY EXCITEMENT NOW! MY VERY OWN PLAINS WOLF! WHAT A DAY!
FLUMP
I CANNOT WAIT TO--
A LEVIATHAN YOUNGLING-- BUT THESE BEASTS ONLY LIVE IN THE ANCIENT DARK--
ROARR
BY DESIDEN'S GREAT HANDS!

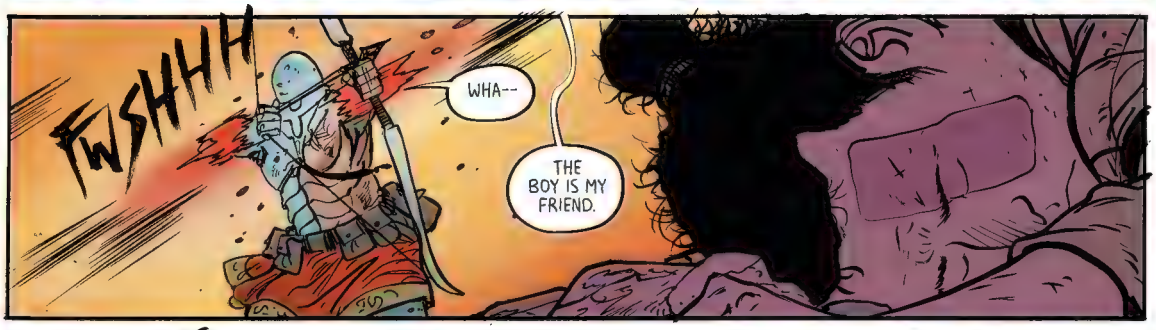

FOR ROTO!
THOOM THOOM THOOM THOOM THOOM THOO
PROTECT OUR AIRSHIP! FORM LINES!
FORM LINES!
FORM LINES!
STAND FIRM! STAND FIRM!
RUMMMMMMBLEE

BOOM!
BRYNJAR!
DO YOU REMEMBER US?
YOU CRUSHED MY HOME!
CHOMP!
AIEE
ROLLO, LOOK OUT!
RATATATATATATA
RATATATATATATA
PKOW
PKOW

CAPTAIN! THE BEAST IS CHARGING US!
PULL US UP! PULL US--
KRUNCH
JUMP, ROLLO!
KABOOM

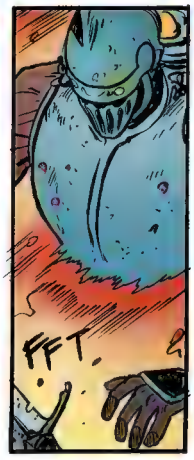

I SHOULD HAVE KILLED *ALL* OF YOU THAT DAY.
ROLLO!

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.
NO!


FWSHHH
WHA--
THE BOY IS MY FRIEND.

WHSH

SHA

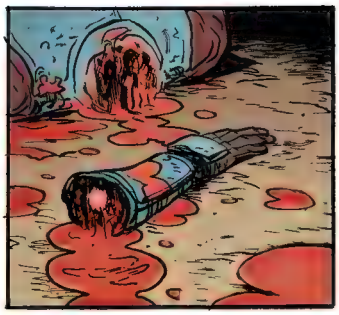

FFT

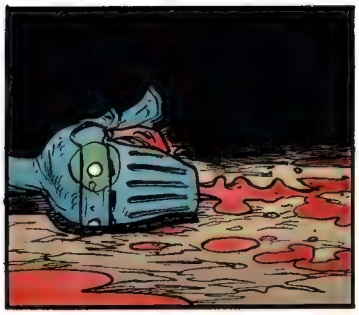
SHH

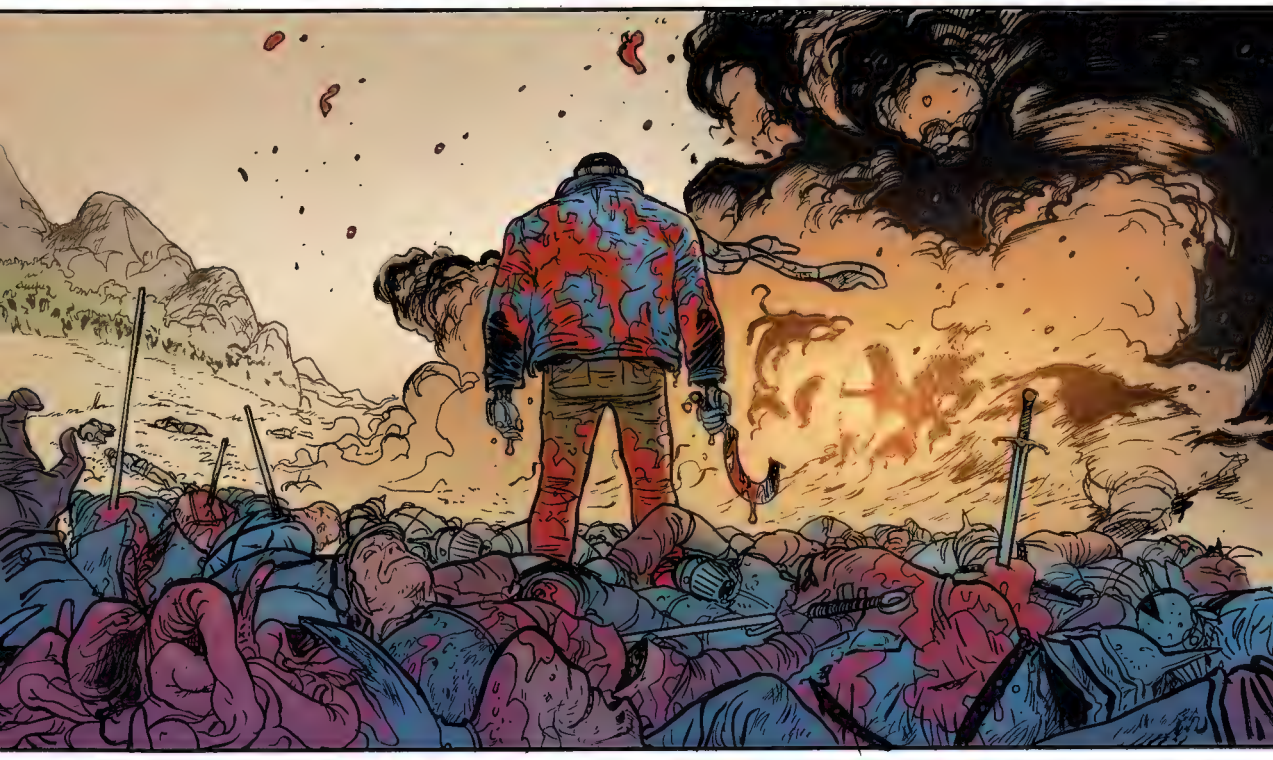
FWA

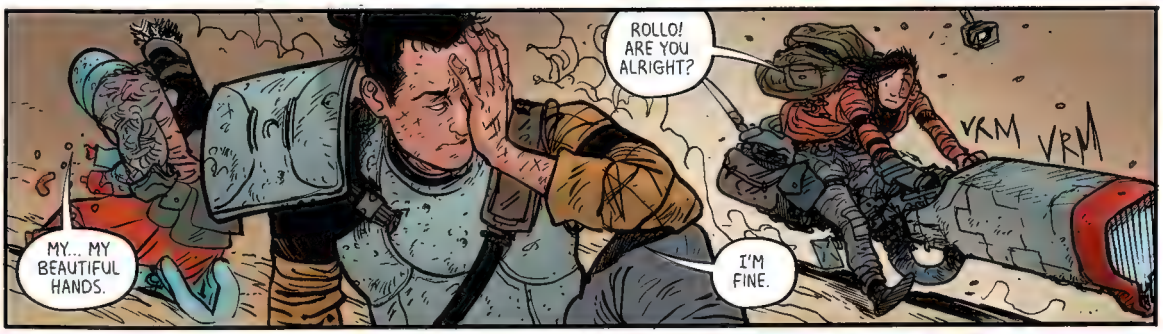
SHA

YOU WILL NOT HURT HIM.
POK! POK!
--MY HANDS!
FIRE AT WILL!
BLAM! BLAM
zip
zip








ROLLO! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
VRM VRM
MY... MY BEAUTIFUL HANDS.
I'M FINE.

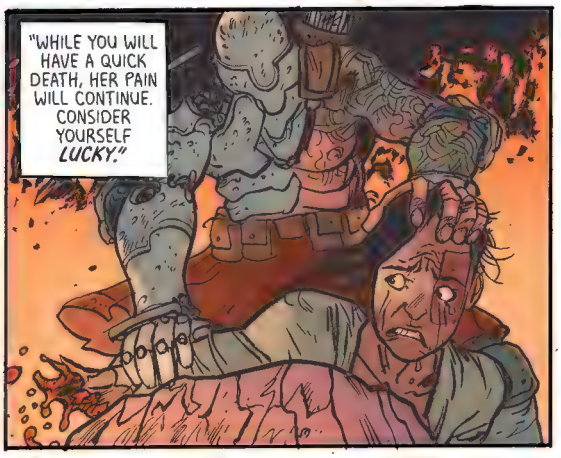
I'M HERE-- I'M HERE.
THEA.

COME.

YOU--TOOK MY HANDS FROM ME--
CLIK!

HUSH NOW.

YOU WERE THE ONE WHO HELD DOWN MY DAUGHTER AS NIM TORE *HER* HAND OFF.
AGHGGHHHHH!


"WHILE YOU WILL HAVE A QUICK DEATH, HER PAIN WILL CONTINUE. CONSIDER YOURSELF *LUCKY*."

DO IT.

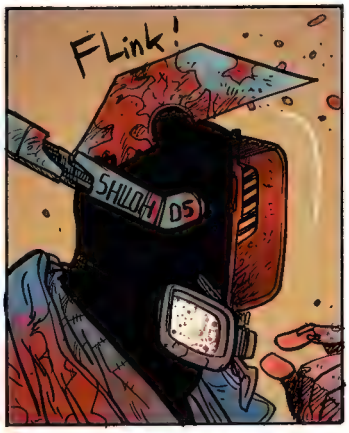
...I FIGURED IT WOULD END LIKE THIS SOME DAY...

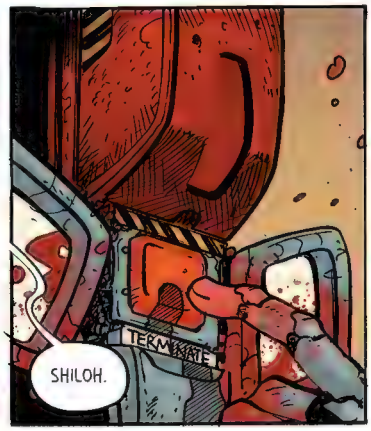
GO AHEAD, LITTLE ROTO.
DESIDEN WATCH OVER US...
DO IT!
GUIDE US, GIVE US OUR TRUE SELVES...
"NEW BEINGS, BORN IN THE SKY.
DO YOUR VERY WORST.
"THEA OF THE ROTO PLAINS...
KACHUNK
"I NAME YOU... ARTIST."

WHAT...

...WHAT HAVE I DONE?

SH-CHUNK
=PULL=
SHILOH

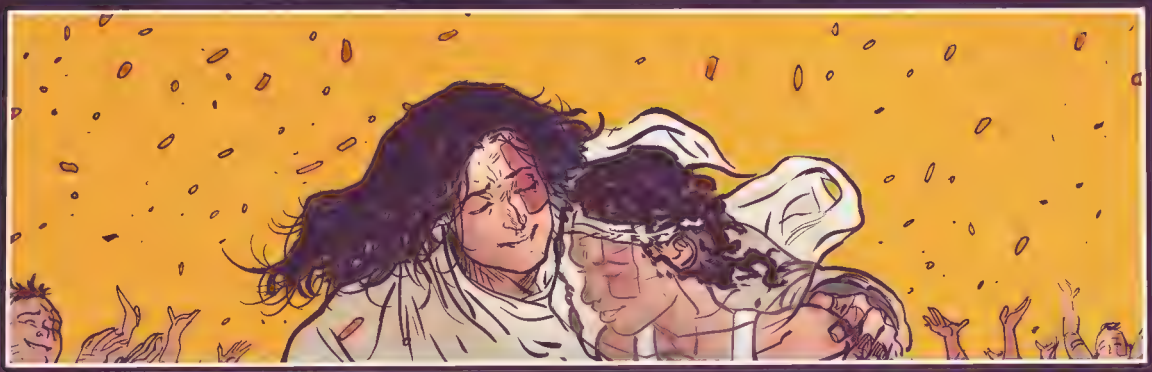

FLink!
SHILOH D5

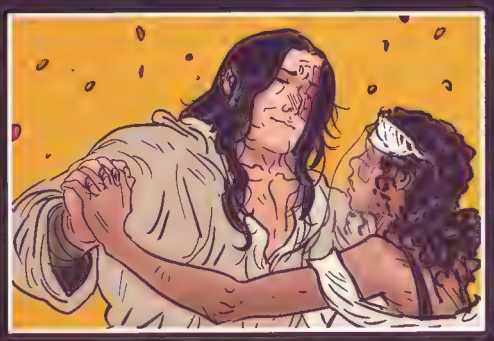

TERMINATE
SHILOH.

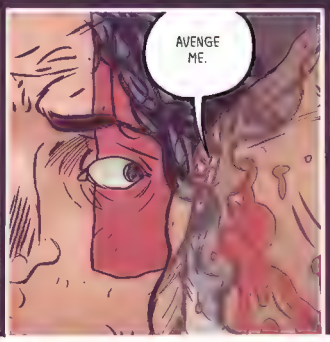
DON'T DO IT.

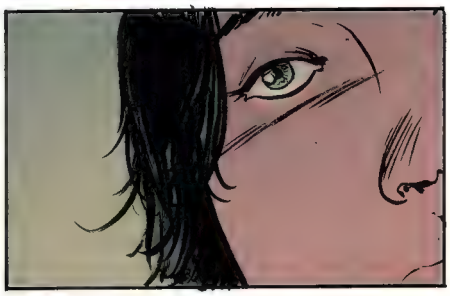
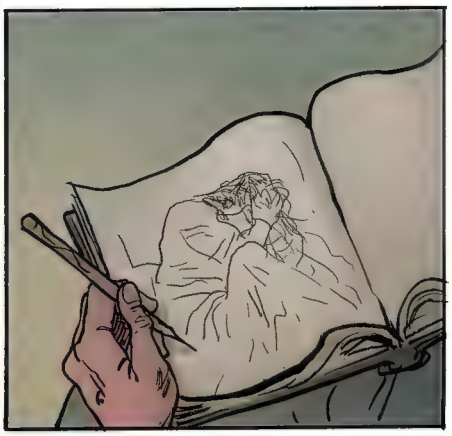
SHILOH CLASS. THAT WAS MY MODEL NAME. I WAS *CREATED* FOR THIS.
I WAS FORCED TO KILL BY MEN WITH GREAT POWER. THEY WOULD MASK IT IN GRAND WORDS, ROUSING SPEECHES... BUT IN THE END...

...THEY WERE FUELED BY VENGEANCE AND HATRED...
...NO MATTER THE SUFFERING.
IF THIS IS ALL I AM GOOD FOR, I SHOULD NOT EXIS--
CLIK






AVENGE ME.

Welcome to the first EXTREMITY letters page! We received such a tremendous outpouring of letters and support. Looks like I enjoy working with Daniel, Mike and Rus as much as you enjoy reading their work. This is Sean, the editor, by the way, who is now going to get out of the way for Daniel to say whatever he wants to say, before we get to your letters.

Hello, everyone! First off, I want to thank anyone who went out to their LCBS and pre-ordered EXTREMITY, anyone who saw EXTREMITY the day it came out and decided to try it out, and especially to any retailers that took a chance on the book. You are all a huge part of this book's success and without you, this comic would not have existed. So thank you, truly. It feels really good to have the book out and in people's hands, and these letters are a great way for me to hear your thoughts on what I have made. Let's get to 'em!

Hello Mr. Johnson and the Extremity team!

I absolutely love love LOVED the first issue and I can't wait for more!! I have a couple of questions, that mask that the Abba wears, it has the teeth of all his enemies i assume. BUT! what exactly are those HUGE teeth from? or will we see that soon?

Amazing story so far and amazing artwork!! I am with you guys!

Just another Extremist,
Andi Tiscareno
El Paso, Texas

Yes, those are the teeth of his enemies. Only Daniel can answer where the big ones came from...

Great question! I wanted to have a little bit of everything in that mask, but the elements that I have the most are the spider-mandibles right where the nose should be, and right below those are two huge bovine stingers. By now, you'll see that there are many different resources that inhabit the Rising Plains, so you can use your imagination as to the kind of monsters Johnson has had to deal with in the past.

My boyfriend and I loved Extremity's first issue. We are big fans of Jodorowski and Moebius, and Extremity feels like a story they wish they'd have written. Johnson doesn't sound as cool as Moebius, but since my last name is also Johnson, I guess I shouldn't throw stones in glass houses.

After reading Extremity I pondered the significance of every part of my body. Also the internal conflict Thea must feel after losing an instrument of creation and then replacing it with an instrument of destruction must be a tremendous burden for a young artistic person. It feels like a story about self-discovery as much it does vengeance.

Can't wait for more Extemity.

Sincerley, Dustin

Hey Dustin,

"Losing an instrument of creation and then replacing it with an instrument of destruction..." Damn! I wish I had thought of that first! Thanks for your thoughts about the book, also your empathy at losing the last name "Johnson". I wanted this story to show Thea's journey as a fully realized person, not just a wounded killer, so I'm glad that you have that.

Hi there!
This is the first time I've written a letter for a comic. This book just has me so excited, I couldn't contain myself. I have been waiting anxiously for its release ever since Daniel subtly mentioned it at Heroes 2016 and boy was it worth the wait! This book blends together so many of the ideas and concepts I love about fantasy and sci fi (floating islands!).

Ever since I came across Space Mullet a few years back, Daniel's art has been an endless inspiration. So Daniel, thank you for sharing your energetic, beautiful, and completely awesome art. And also, thanks to Mike Spicer for the gorgeous colors on this book.
I am eager to see the continued adventures of Thea and company.

Oh and last thing, that map! Once I turned that final page and saw The Rising Plains a wave of giddy excitement washed over me. The only thing that beats a good map, is a good map with floating islands.

-Seth McKay
Atlanta, GA

Since this is a lot of folk's first exposure to Daniel's work, please PLEASE check out *Space Mullet*. Dark Horse printed the first volume, and every page of it is posted on www.space-mullet.com. Are we getting more printed volumes?

Thanks, Seth! I remember chatting with you at Heroes, and your excitement while hearing about this story was yet another drive to do my very best with this tale, so thanks for your letter and your enthusiasm. And YES, Mike Sasseen has been WONDERFUL on colors on EXTREMITY. It's a match made in heaven. I couldn't be happier with his work. THANKS, MIKE!

Space Mullet VOL 2 is on hold for right now as I finish EXTREMITY, but the story continues part volume 2 on the website, there's almost 120 pages that are online that have not been printed yet. Check it out!

Dear Daniel...i just finished EXTREMITY #1 and LOVED it! sorry to jump out of the blue like this but it's rare that i read comics that I just get lost in. It was a beautiful combination of story, art and colors. I hope that it does well for you and i look forward to the next issue!

Warm Regards,

Will Dennis

Thanks, Will! Will currently edits *Moonshine* by Brian Azzarello and Eduardo Risso (published by Image Comics... definitely check out the first trade coming out at the end of May, for only $9.99). It's work by those two creators on *100 Bullets* that really kept me reading comics when I got to college, and another title Will edited, *Scalped* by Jason Aaron and R.M. Guera. So this is how the circle of comics life goes.

Hi there, Will! *Scalped* was one of my very favorite comics in college, and kept me interested in the medium in the late 2000s, so your words mean a lot to me. This is a super cool feeling! Dang. Circle of life, indeed.

Dear Extremity Crew,

I picked up Extremity issue 1 after reading the preview because it hooked me, and after reading Issue 1 I thought it was really good and I will certainly buy the issues that are to come. You've started a really great story guys.

1. Can you give us an idea on how big Asmund was in terms of power within the Paznina, he couldn't be the boss could he because I would think that the boss wouldn't be killed off in the first issue, but I think that we would see the Roto get a small taste of revenge in issue 1 by killing off a high member of the Paznina (Asmund). I'm asking this because I would like to know roughly how big the Paznina are and how much revenge the Roto have got so far. As I said, probably not much compared to the future. Hell, I'm pretty sure Asmund is dead anyway.

Queen Nim is the head of the Paznina. She, along with Asmund, Brynjar and Benar (seen last issue, and again next issue), were the Paznina responsible for Thea's mutilation and the death of her mother. So revenge starts with them, and ends with any other Paznina that gets in the way.

Couldn't have said it better, Sean.

2. Can you tell us roughly how many issues you guys are hoping on doing for Extremity.

Thea's story will last at least 12 issues.

We should also mention that there are a few issues with extra pages in them! Skybound has been awesome by being flexible with my page counts, so when the story needs a little more visual flair, I have the room to make it happen. Also, as you'll see by now, Asmund is still very much alive!

Can't wait for the upcoming issues guys. Roll on April 5.
Conor Medlyn
Cornwall, England

Can't wait for you to read it, and thanks for trying it out!

Wow! What a powerhouse of a first issue. How have I not seen your art before? It is incredible! So much life and energy in every panel, creating a flow to the story that just screams. Exquisite character designs, not only making it easy to distinguish between them, but making a clear statement about each character's personality. The action is tremendous; it moves at an awesome pace, and your talent for gore reminds me of Ryan Ottley in the best ways. It's also very clear that you've spent a lot of time developing this world and these characters. There's only so much one can do with 22 pages, but already I'm invested in the universe and society that you've created. Putting the reader in the POV of a damaged artist in a world of war and carnage is a very engaging concept, and I'm excited to see how Thea develops now that she's taken the plunge into vengeful violence. Absolutely cannot wait to read more! (But I will wait. because like.. seriously take your time.. this is your baby.. and it's so precious)

Please thank your wife again for me. Just the thought of this comic not existing is a sadness I'd like to furiously slice off with a cleaver.

Levi Remington

Thanks so much for the kind words, Levi. I remember being a sophomore in college and looking at Ryan's art in INVINCIBLE, and wishing that I could draw action that well! He's still an inspiration to this day, and any comparison to him is very humbling. I appreciate you recognizing the work that went into creating this world. It's amazing how much energy is required to make something from nothing. So for those of you out there that are struggling to make your own stories, hang in there. It's worth it.

Daniel,

When I saw your book on the shelf at the comic store I first noticed this girl missing a hand and it made me think of my favorite all time character, Ash from

the Evil Dead. So, I picked it up and as always I flip through the book to get a glance at the art work. Then I look at who the writer and artist is to make the final decision to spend my hard earned money on the purchase. I was not familiar with Daniel Johnson but I decided to give Extremity a try since the art work looked really good. I read it twice. I decided to write you a letter, which I never do. WOW. There are so many different emotions in this book that I could feel each characters anger, fear and loss. My wife of 26 years passed away in 2011 and left me with a 10 year old daughter to raise. My daughter is an artist and a very good one at that. I understood the father's anger and sense of responsibility to continue on. It is interesting that you named your character Abba which means Father. I felt sorry for the daughter and understood her anger. Thea did lose a valuable part of herself, an extremity, as well as her mother. The brother being opposite of her fits well in that even raised in the same conditions they are different. I loved the apocalyptic world you created, the characters are relatable and the story is amazing not to mention the art, colors and letters flow so well together with the story. Extremity issue one was a great introduction and I look forward to many more. You have a new fan.

John Williams aka JohnnyMagicMemphis

Thanks, John. Sorry for your loss. We probably would've published this book for the art alone, but the emotional connection to the material you describe is really what made me want to do this book. This family, and the way they act on their fear, anger and sadness, really grounds this story in a world of rampaging leviathans and floating islands.

Thank you for opening up with us, John, and I'm so sorry for your loss. In some ways, I was scared to write EXTREMITY. The characters have been through so much, and I've lived a wonderful, privileged life. How could I create meaningful characters that have been through what I have not? I talked with my wife about this often, and she said once that if I am true to myself and to what my characters are saying, it WILL speak to others, in some way. So thanks for proving her right. This is one of the many reasons I love fiction. It brings people together.

Daniel,

What an amazing job of issue 1 of Extremity. This is one of the most interesting and intense first issues I've ever read. There is a lot of complexity in Rollo and Thea that can lead to a lot of great character moments. I really hope you dig into the past of these characters and really flesh out this world and it's history.

That is definitely going to happen. The history of the Rising Plains will impact the present in very surprising ways.

One of the things I'm most excited about in this book is presenting the varying parts of the world the characters reside in. I've done so many sketches and put so much brainpower into the creation of it, I need to give it some screen time! Keep your eyes peeled, there's a lot going on in the background of the Rising Plains.

I was extremely happy to have received your very first Thea commission at Emerald City Comic Con and I look forward to seeing a lot more of your incredible art and story.

Keep up the incredible work!
Tony Pearson
Port Orchard, Washington

I'm lucky enough to own two pieces of Daniel's artwork. If you're interested in his original art, check out www.felixcomicart.com for his and many other incredible comics artists' pages.

I've been very blessed by having Felix as an art rep. He works ridiculously hard to make sure that my pages and commissions go to collectors in a professional and timely manner. All I can say is that (A) thank you for getting a commission of one of my characters, and (B) Felix is awesome.

Daniel,

This past Sunday I took my daughter to our local Comic Shop (Jetpack in Rochester NH). I recently gave her a collection of Powerpuff Girls Comics I had bought for her older sisters, years ago. She loved them, so I told her we could go buy some new ones. Of course, being an on again/off again Comic Buyer for the better part of 40 years, I figured I'd grab something for myself. It's been about 10 years since my last comic buy, The Divine Right Series, so it's been a while. I grabbed Extremity 1 and Grass Kings 1. I've always preferred to buy Comics closer to the beginning of a series for some reason. Anyhow, I just finished Extremity and I really enjoyed it. I've always enjoyed post apocalyptic type of stories and it quenched that thirst for sure.

Looking forward to buying the coming chapters.

Thanks for your time,
Mike Bourgeois

Thanks, Mike! Glad you enjoyed, and hopefully you'll stick around.

Indeed, Mike! Thank you for taking a chance on this book. I remember being a kid and perusing the comic book store, looking for something that would get me excited, so it's an awesome feeling to know that my book has done that for somebody else. Thanks for your letter.

Ok, that does it for this month. Next issue, Thea and the Roto pay a visit to Dag Benar... and things don't go quite as planned.

-Sean Mackiewicz
@seanmackiewicz

I can't believe I just finished writing my first letters column! Thanks to everyone for writing in! See you all in 30 days!

-Daniel Warren Johnson
@danielwarrenart

Image
Daniel Warren Johnson Mike Spicer
SKYBOUND
EXTREMITY
ISSUE 4 AVAILABLE JUNE 2017

Blood Runs Deep

REDNECK™

Donny CATES Lisandro ESTHERREN Dee CUNNIFFE

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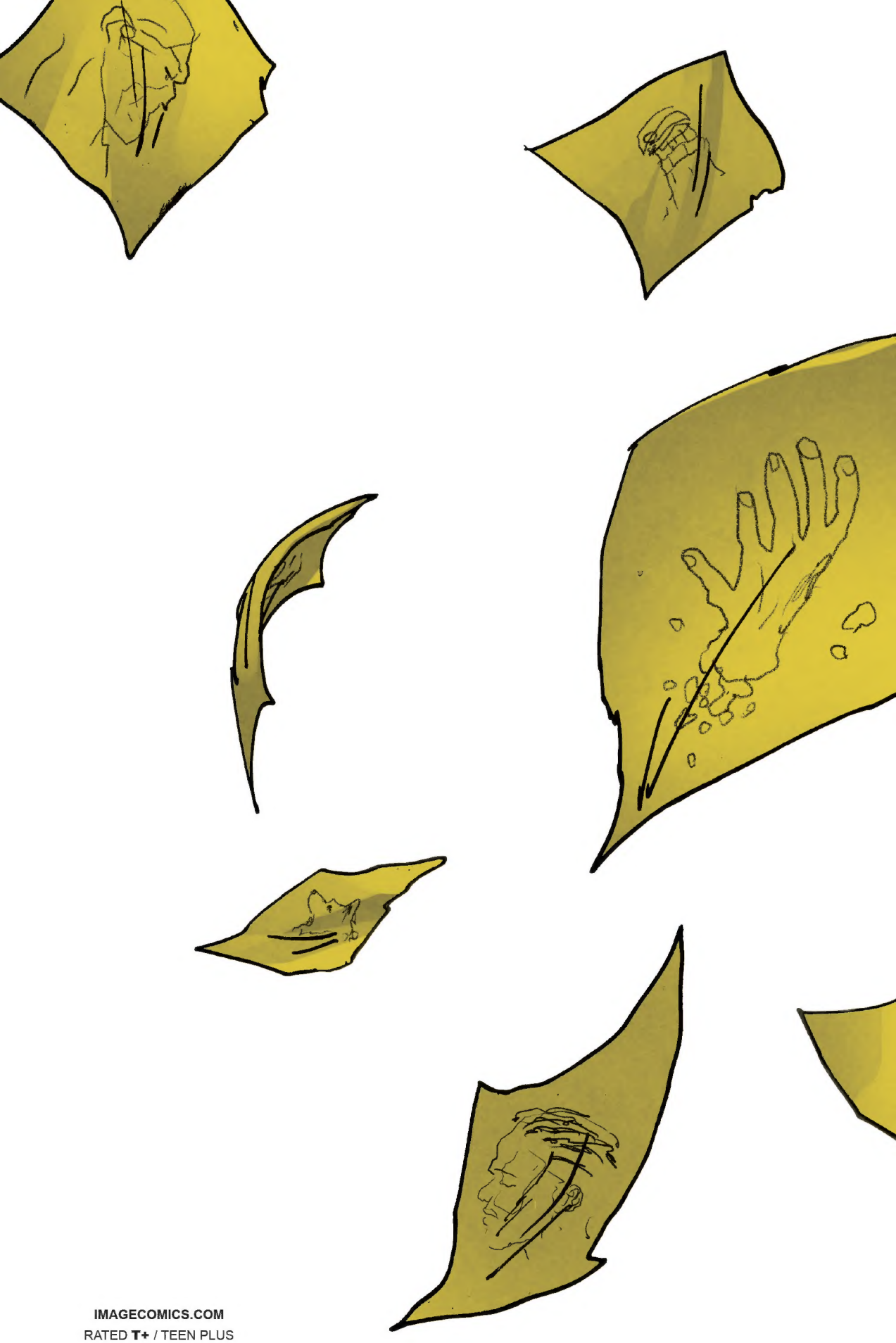

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